



# LIBYA NEWS UPDATE

Wednesday, 12 May, 2021

## LIBYA'S 4 BILLION DINAR FUND TO REBUILD THE COUNTRY



On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dabaiba announced his government's plans to establish funds to rebuild cities and areas damaged during the country's civil war. The Government of National Unity (GNU), Libya's first government to unite the country since 2014, will use the fund to rebuild cities such as Benghazi, Tripoli, Murzuq, and Sirte.

The GNU was formed on February 5<sup>th</sup>, after Libya's political groups came together for UN-mediated talks. The interim government has been mandated to support Libya's reconstruction and lead the country to democratic elections in December.

## TAKING ACTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF JOURNALISTS

Celebrating World Press Freedom Day, Prime Minister Dabaiba publicly issued several directives for the protection of journalists in Libya and to prevent their targeting, detention, or use of violence against them. The Prime Minister affirmed that the right to freely question and criticize the government's performance is an inherent right of all Libyans, as enshrined in the Constitutional Declaration and international charters.

According to Amnesty International's North Africa researcher, Diana Eltahawy, the formation of the Government of National Unity has provided Libya "a vital opportunity to reset the political agenda and put human rights at the heart of it" and to heal the country following the Gaddafi era.



## PROPOSAL FOR CONSTITUTIONAL BASIS FOR DECEMBER ELECTIONS

UN Special Envoy for Libya Jan Kubis has sent a proposal for the constitutional basis for Libya's elections to the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum. The proposal was finalized recently by the LPDF's Legal Committee. Kubis will convene a virtual plenary session of the LPDF soon after the Eid holiday at the end of Ramadan to discuss the proposal.